

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:305

ANSWERED ON:19.02.2009

EXPANSION OF RAILWAY NETWORK IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

Ramadass Prof. M

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to expand railway network in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways have any proposal to convert Pathankote-Jogendranagar narrow gauge railway line into broad gauge and to connect it with Bilaspur and Salapad railway line via Mandi-Sundernagar and to extend Chandigarh-Ambala railway line upto Mata Jwalaji via Sajanpur; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be operational?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(DR. R. VELU)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c): The new railway line projects of Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri, Chandigarh-Baddi and Nangal Dam-Talwara have already been taken up. Surveys for construction of new broad gauge lines from Bilaspur to Leh (via Kullu, Manali and Sundernagar), Joginder Nagar to Mandi and updating survey for gauge conversion of Pathankot-Joginder Nagar have been taken up. The extension of Chandigarh-Ambala rail link upto Jwalaji is presently not under consideration.

(d) : The surveys mentioned in part (b) & (c) are targeted to be completed in 2009-10.